Four Genre CSDS 90

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The four genres that I will be discussing in these papers are documentaries, films, poetry, and epic.

For the documentary, the video that I will be analyzing is Charles Krauel's *A Profile of a Deaf Filmmaker.* The theme represented in Charles Krauel's documentary was the preservation of ASL, history, and culture. Charles Krauel did this in his documentary by going around and filming fraternities. Filming these fraternities showcase how the deaf community develop their culture as they would use the fraternities as a place for deaf people to socialize, play games, and party. Charles Krauel also captured the old style of ASL that doesn't use sentence structure as they were more natural, and he captured many songs signed by deaf people. This is really important as deaf people usually don't tend to write stuff down, and there was also Alex Graham Bell that was trying to remove ASL from deaf children's education. Charles Krauel also showed what the 1900s were like when Krauel and his friend travel to Florida, Cuba, and New Orleans which showed what US history was like at that time while teaching deaf people the information.

The next genre I'll be discussing is films, and the film I will discuss is *No Ordinary Hero: The SuperDeafy Movie* directed by Troy Kotsur. The film discusses the theme of two-world conditions. Two-world conditions are how hearing people don't understand what it means to be deaf. The movie highlights this by having the character Tony make the show Superdeafy to inspire deaf children that they can do great things in life. However, the producers don't understand Tony's intent of the show and made Superdeafy a clown that is bullied by Officer Norm. Officer Norm then further oppresses Superdeafy by attacking Superdeafy on stage. However, Superdeafy soon comes to light after Jenny empathizes with Superdeafy. Which soon leads Superdeafy to fire the producers, and later embrace his identity of being deaf. The boy Jacob also was showing the theme of two-world conditions as he was comfortable doing ASL,

but his dad was heavily against it as he see it as abnormal. It's not until the dad had further education and discussion to finally accept Jacob for who he is.

The next genre I'll be discussing is poetry *To A Hearing Mother* performed by Ella Lentz. Like The SuperDeafy Movie, the poem also hit the theme of two-world conditions where the hearing mom gave birth to a deaf boy and tries to raise him like a hearing person. This is a problem because he will be isolated from the deaf community and won't be able to communicate effectively without ASL. However, the deaf boy can't abandon the mom cause he sees her as family. In the poem, if the deaf boy is raised against the deaf community he will fall as he will be alone and at a loss of identity. Fortunately, the poem ends on a positive note where the mom can embrace the deaf culture and teach ASL to his son to allow him to develop. As well as two-world conditions the poem also hits pride and love of ASL as the poem talks about the positive effect of learning ASL. As well as the preservation of ASL as if you don't teach the deaf boy ASL. The deaf community is at risk of living with ASL. The poem also follows the deaf audience's preference for being clear and simple as the poem solely focuses on a hearing mom raising a deaf boy.

The final genre that I'll be discussing is epics, and the documentary I'll be looking at is Deaf Mosaic DPN produced by Gallaudet University. The Deaf Mosaic DPN theme is oppression and defiance. What Deaf Mosaic DPN is about Gallaudet University choosing Elisabeth Zinser, a non-deaf person, when the deaf students in the university wanted Irving Jordan, a deaf person. The students thought the university was oppressing them because the university not choosing Jordan sent the message that they believe deaf people can't do a hearing job. The students then showed successful defiance by protesting and closing the school town. The deaf students would show successful communication by clearly expressing their demands

and talking to a news network to explain their resolves. They were also very dedicated to that change as they were willing to stay in school during spring break to protest. Finally, the students were able to make Irving Jordan the deaf president. Irving Jordan was then able to bust the myth that deaf people can’t do jobs as well as hearing people as he was able to hold his job from 1988-2006.